



EDLESBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes for the Meeting of Edlesborough Parish Council held on 20th October 2022 in Northall Village Hall

Open Forum

Mrs Lorna Cabbage drew the Council's attention to the increasing number of Amazon and delivery vans that continue to use Eaton Bray Road, Northall as a "cut through."

Action: Clerk to write again to Amazon Logistics and advise TVP.

Present

Cllr Williams, Cllr Cabbage, Cllr Wilkinson, Cllr Wells (left at 21.34), Cllr Booth, Cllr Harpley, Cllr Thomas (arrived at 19.42), Buckinghamshire Councillor Chris Poll, Penny Pataky (the Clerk) and one parishioner.

Apologies

Cllr Nevard, Cllr Owen, Buckinghamshire Cllr Peter Brazier

Declarations of Interest

None were declared

Minutes

Council agreed the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Edlesborough Parish Council 29th September 2022.

Matters Arising

Cllr Williams formally opened the meeting at 19.36

Buckinghamshire Council Report

Buckinghamshire Cllr Chris Poll was in attendance and reported on the following.

Buckinghamshire Council are currently waiting for information from Central Government in relation to the current financial situation.

BC is currently reviewing its budget and must have a balanced budget in place by December 2022. The Council is coming to the end of their current energy deal so is looking at the implications of this. BC staff had a 2% rise earlier in the year, many other authorities are looking at a 7% rise for their staff, BC may look to implementing similar in March 2023.

There are currently funding cuts across all departments. BC is looking at a shortfall in excess of £1million in four years' time.

Cllr Wilkinson once again drew BC Cllr Poll's attention to the lack response and reluctance to engage with EPC about their interpretation of some of the policies in the Edlesborough Neighbourhood Plan.

Action: Cllr Wilkinson and BC Cllr Poll to liaise on this matter.

Wing & Ivinghoe Community Board

Katrina Holyoake the coordinator for the Wing and Ivinghoe Community Board will be meeting with Cllr Williams, the Clerk and any other Councillor that wishes to attend on 9th November.

Councillors Williams and Wilkinson and the Clerk attended the Wing and Ivinghoe Community Board Meeting. The attendees found the meeting disappointing.

During the meeting updates were given on the Boards progress, Ukraine Support, Warm Spaces and Dementia Support.

Cllr Williams stated that the Board seems to be focusing more and more on the Health and Well Being priority.

The Board requested that any information about local warm spaces is shared with them to enable them to collate a list which can be used to direct people in need.

The Board will be providing a toolkit for Warm Spaces. Cllr Williams has requested one to use in helping to facilitate Edlesborough Pavilion as a warm space.

The following update was circulated after the meeting:

“Councils were informed that the Transport for Buckinghamshire highways contract is due to end on 31st March 2023. Community Boards have requested PIDs for and have funded a number of schemes across the county from TfB.

As the TfB contract draws to an end, Community Board schemes currently sit under the following possible scenarios:

- 1. Projects funded by boards and being delivered- funding is secured and will be reserved in to 2023/24 if schemes are not completed before 31st March 2023.*
- 2. Projects funded by boards but currently not scheduled to be delivered under current TfB contract- funding is secured and will be reserved in to 2023/24. Updates will be provided in early 2023.*
- 3. Projects where a PID has been received from TfB, but Community Boards have not formally allocated funding due to being unable to order additional works from TfB as a result of the contract end. Community Boards will need to discuss and agree which schemes they would like to prioritise so that discussions can take place about whether funding can also be reserved. Note that schemes may need to be re-priced by Balfour Beatty, which does mean that costs could increase or decrease and potentially will require additional contributory funding.*
- 4. Applications received but PID not produced- applications will be kept on hold and will be reviewed once new ways of working within the new contract are confirmed.*

Conversations are taking place between Community Board Managers, Chairman & Parish Councils to ascertain which projects in scenario 3 remain a priority for each board with a view to confirming final arrangements before the end of the year.”

Planning

The following applications were considered, and it was agreed to submit the following responses to Buckinghamshire Council Local Planning Authority:

Application No.	Address	Description	Parish Council Response
22/03422/ATN 10 th October 2022	Land at Ringshall Road Dagnall	Installation of 18m high telecom mast and associated cabinets to replace existing 8m high mast	OPPOSE Does not comply with Policy I6 of VALP
22/03171/APP 18 th October 2022	8 St Marys Glebe Edlesborough	Single storey side extension	No Objections

The Clerk drew the Councils attention to an email that indicated that Little Gadsden Parish Council may decide to support application 22/03422/ATN as they believe this mast could benefit their parishioners.

The following decisions had been notified by Buckinghamshire Council Local Planning Authority:

Application No.	Address/	Description	Parish Council Response	LPA Decision
22/02529/AAD 5 th August 2022	Travellers Rest PH Tring Road Edlesborough	New exterior signage and lighting	No objections	Permitted
22/02792/APP	21 The Green	Two storey rear extension and removal of existing chimney	No objections	Permitted

30 th August 2022	Edlesborough			
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Cllr Wilkinson advised the Council that an application has been made to Buckinghamshire Council to prune the tree in front of the Scout Hall on Edlesborough High Street. This tree is subject to a TPO (Tree Preservation Order). Council agreed that if EPC is invited to comment on the application that it would support the application.

Action: Cllr Wilkinson to respond with agreed response if EPC are consulted.

Villages

The Clerk attended the Thames Valley Police Crime Prevention Surgery at Taskers Row. Information was shared about crime prevention, cost of living tips, scam advice and how to contact TVP.

Parishioners were encouraged to use 101 or email the team via greatbrickhillivinghoenhpt@thamesvalley.police.uk should they wish to report something that is a non-emergency or if they wish to request crime prevention support or draw TVP's attention to a welfare issue.

Edlesborough

High Street Telecom Mast

There have been no further updates on this.

Warm Banks

Cllr Williams reported that ECSC are exploring the feasibility of using Edlesborough Pavilion for this purpose. However, it is required that some sort of activity is provided, opposed to just allowing people to sit in the building.

Double Yellow Lines on High Street, Edlesborough

Bellway Homes have confirmed that they have paid the S106s commuted sum to Buckinghamshire Council for the double yellow lines on High Street, Edlesborough.

Action: Clerk to raise this with Buckinghamshire Highways and establish when the lines will be installed.

Dagnall

EPC has objected to the proposed upgrade to the existing telecom mast and associated cabinets on Ringshall Road, Ringshall.

The details of the application can be viewed on the Bucks Planning website, reference Application 22/03422/ATN.

Northall

The Clerk is awaiting a response from the LAT re a second pedestrian warning sign on Eaton Bray Road, Northall.

Increasing EPC Visibility

The Clerk and Cllr Williams met with Paula Ellison re the use of social media to engage with Parishioners. The Council website was commended. Paula made some very useful suggestions as to how to engage parishioners using social media and how the Council can develop its use of social media.

Action: Cllr Williams and the Clerk will look to exploring Paula Ellison's suggestion to contact local schools/colleges to see if there are any young individuals who would like to work with the Council on this.

Projects

Edlesborough Green Children's Play Area

– led by Cllr Mrs Booth

The Planning Inspectorate's site visit has taken place. It is hoped that a decision will be received within the next two weeks.

EMH Redecoration

– led by Cllr Mrs Thomas

The Edlesborough WI Banner will be rehung in the near future.

Action: Cllr Thomas to research and develop a display about the history of the building to be placed in the arched area.

EMH Status

– led by Cllr Wilkinson

The PCC have requested a further meeting with EPC representatives to explore how they can support EPC's request without providing any financial input.

Council agreed that it is requesting a variation in the current lease they are not requesting a new lease. The variation will be an extension to the length of the lease. EPC are not seeking any other variations to the lease.

Action: Clerk to set up a meeting.

Re-Wilding

– Led by Cllrs Owen and Wells

Nothing to report.

EPC Small Grant Scheme

– Led by Cllr Harpley

Nothing to report.

EDaN & Traffic Management Team Updates

Traffic Calming & MVAS

The Clerk has been working with Zoe Ford from Buckinghamshire Highways to establish a way forward regarding the post issue as both the Clerk and Truvelo have been given mixed information about the costs and procedure on how to progress this matter.

Zoe Ford has asked if EPC would consider reducing the number of locations or changing the locations to enable the use of existing street furniture.

The Clerk has explained that the locations were selected by the Council as they have been identified as locations where drivers need education about their speed. The locations have been approved by Paul Foot the LAT and the Truvelo technician ensuring that they meet the requirements of the MVAS units. Many of the locations do not have existing street furniture that can be utilised.

Cllr Williams pointed out that the 'M' in MVAS means mobile and that users are encouraged to move the devices to different locations to make them as productive as possible.

Zoe Ford has also asked why EPC require a post on South End Lane, the Clerk has responded explaining the need to slow the vehicles coming past the children's play area.

On the 19th October Zoe Ford laid out the process and the information that should have been made clear through the website.

The process for applying for a MVAS is as follows:

- The parish choose locations and pay £400 plus VAT for an assessment of these sites.
- LAT then approves/not the locations – the LATs involvement of the application ends here.
- The Parish then contacts one of two contractors from the link on Buckinghamshire Councils website.
- The contactors then take on the whole project, organise the works required and apply for the relevant licences and provide the final cost for the parish.

The only licenses required per site if the parish were to install 11 posts/ground screws are according to the website:

- Streetworks licence (road space booking permit) - £155 plus VAT per post – this is required if any incursion of the highway occurs
- Section 171 licence - £137.50 + VAT per post – this is for excavating (opening the ground)

If you install 11 posts or 11 ground screws the licences above would total £3,217.50 + VAT.

These costs could be reduced if any of the approved locations are on the same road in the same area then only one street works licence would be required.

The contractor can advise whether ground screws and three posts are a cheaper option than 11 posts. Zoe Ford continues to inform the Council that 13 sites (11 new sites) is an exceptional amount of locations, most villages would only have two locations on the main route through a village. EPC does not wish to reduce the number of sites.

Action: BC Cllr Chris Poll will contact Steve Broadbent at BC to see how this matter can be progressed.

South End Lane 20mph

- Led by Cllr Harpley

Cllr Harpley explained to the Council that following the Speed Survey EPC is now receiving mixed messages on the way forward.

He explained the BC criteria and outlined that the results of the speed survey meet the requirements as set out at the start of the project.

- A very significant proportion (41%) of vehicle movements exceed 20 mph adjacent to the Play Area entrance. This justifies installation of 20 mph signs.

- The average speed is below 24 mph and therefore no additional traffic calming measures beyond installation of 20 mph signs will be necessary.

On the 18th October Leigh Brown, Project Manager, Transport for Buckinghamshire informed the Council that

"...there is a possibility based on the speed survey that a reduction in the speed limit may be possible however not for the reasons you have detailed below. It is important to note that Bucks Council will not fund a speed limit reduction so before you apply you will need to make sure you have secured the appropriate funding.

In order to reduce a speed limit to you would require a speed assessment by the Network Safety team, a public consultation, TRO, design and of course the signs replaced. I have not done an official costing exercise but you would be looking at least £10 000 if not upwards of that

...Given the costs associated with a reduction in speed limits it is worth the Parish Council considering if the costs associated would be worth the results achieved. Given that the mean average speed on this part of the road is already 18mph and that there have not been any recorded injury incidents reported in this location over the previous 5 years, it would suggest that changing the speed limit might not bring the changes you are hoping to see.

Should you wish to proceed, please confirm that the Parish Council will be funding this project in its entirety and all 3 Buckinghamshire councillors are in support and I will raise an official estimate and invoice."

BC Cllr Chris Poll confirmed that himself, Cllr Peter Brazier and Cllr Derek Town support EPC's application. Council agreed that they would be prepared to fund 50% of the application as set out in the original guidance.

Action: Cllr Harpley to draft a letter of application detailing how the application meets the criteria as set out in the guidance provided by Buckinghamshire Council at the start of the project. Cllr Harpley to also seek the support of the Wing and Ivinghoe Community Board.

FOTCOTH

Cllr Williams asked the Clerk to check that the area of the churchyard where the pignut grows has been cut.

EDaN Beautification Team

Mrs Lorna Cabbage spoke on behalf of the team, she informed the Council that looking ahead to Christmas there is a need for help with the Christmas decorations in the village.

Council agreed that the Council contractor would be asked to erect the two Christmas trees, one at the top of Cow Lane and one by Edlesborough Pavilion.

Edlesborough Memorial Hall will once again be dressed in Christmas lights.

Actions: Cllr Williams will establish the power supply requirements for the Cow Lane tree. Mrs Yates will source the two trees and inform the Clerk of the delivery date. Cllr Williams will work with ECSC to locate the Christmas lights that were used to dress the partially built pavilion two years ago. The Clerk will ask the contractor to erect the trees. The Clerk will put a plea out on FB and in the next Focus for volunteers to "dress" the trees.

Parish Amenities

Reports on all Amenities including Buckinghamshire Council Devolved Services.

AED's

The AED at The Swan has had the required software update and needed the battery replaced – this AED is now active again.

The AED located at EMH has had the required software update and also required a new battery. This AED is now "lost" by WEL Medical/DPD.

The Clerk is liaising with WEL Medical trying to get the device found/replaced. The Clerk has requested all the details about the address label that was used as the Swan AED was left in the front garden of the one of the Clerk's neighbours. The parcel had the incorrect address on it.

Council agreed not to pay the invoice for the two new batteries until the missing device is returned in full working order.

Annual Donation to South Central Ambulance Service for the CFR's

Council agreed that it would request an update on the local CFR and their impact on the Parish. The annual donation can then be discussed and agreed following this update.

Action: Cllr Williams to request an update on CFR's impact on Parish. Also, to remind the CFR's that Edlesborough Pavilion or Edlesborough Memorial Hall can be used for AED demonstrations/training.

Munns, The Red Lion, Dagnall and the Edlesborough Baptist Church have all been asked to confirm their payment details for the AED energy costs payment.

EPC has received £100 from St Mary's Carnival for the running of the AED's.

Devolved Services

EPC has been advised that communication on the 2023/24 package should be received shortly.

EMH

The Sunday morning yoga class has folded due to lack of numbers.

The Hive system is installed and working, this enables the Clerk to operate the heating remotely.

EMH has received a donation of £575 from St Mary's Carnival towards EMH projects. This is in line with the donations made to DVH, NVH, EB Village Hall and Edlesborough Pavilion as part of their principal charity for the 2022 carnival.

Green

The Council contractor will prune some low hanging branches on the trees as they are in the way of the grass cutting machines. He will also prune the tree overhanging the Pebblemoor car park as the branches are hitting parked cars.

Sports Clubs

EB Lions

Prior to the meeting the Council had received a request from EB Lions FC for permission to mark out an additional football pitch on the cricket pitch outfield. Council discussed the request and the current use of the Green. Currently approximately 50% of the Green is used by the football club and 50% by the cricket club. Council agreed that by allowing the club to mark out another pitch on the cricket circle this would restrict other users' ability to use this part of the Green on match days. Additionally, Council agreed that the current arrangement is sufficient. The request for the additional pitch on the cricket circle is denied.

Action: Clerk to inform EB Lions FC of the Councils decision.

ECC

Following on from the discussions at the September meeting the Council were surprised that there was no representation from ECC.

Cllr Williams reminded the Council that ECC had asked what increase there would be on the annual fee if they were to sublet the cricket pitch to another team on Sunday. Cllr Wilkinson had proposed a 25% increase. It was pointed out that in the past ECC had fielded two teams on the Green and that at that time the annual fee had not been increased. The Clerk and Cllr Harpley reminded the Council that ECC were hoping that by being allowed to sublet the pitch this would increase their revenue as they are currently struggling to pay the current annual fee.

Council agreed that there would be no increase on the annual fee should ECC decide to sublet the cricket pitch to another team on a Sunday (this would be subject to EPC approval and ECC agreeing to the terms set out at the September meeting).

Action: Cllr Williams to inform ECC that the Council would not increase the fee as it recognised that ECC are doing this to increase their revenue. Future fees are still subject to the normal annual increase.

ETC

Nothing to report.

Play Area

The annual play area inspection has taken place. The Clerk will look to addressing the recommendations over the next month.

Edlesborough Pavilion

Footpath to join Pavilion path to pavement.

The purchase order has been raised. The Clerk awaits confirmation of a start date.

Update on Property

Cllr Cabbage informed the Council that another site visit with the builder, Richard Diggle, Ken Holloway and himself will take place shortly.

Cllr Williams updated the Council on how the Pavilion is currently operating and the successful outcome of the recent visit from Buckinghamshire Council's Enforcement Officer following a complaint alleging the people preparing the food were not trained and that the correct allergen information was not displayed. Sara Hawkes the Enforcement Officer was impressed with the organisation and procedures that are in place. She made some useful suggestions that ECSC will be following.

Information of EPC Website

The Clerk has worked with Moren Associates to update the information on the EPC website about the Pavilion.

Allotments

Dagnall Allotments

The Clerk has received a report of a resident emptying their cats litter tray on to the allotments.

Cow Lane Allotments

Nothing to report.

The Green Allotments

Nothing to report

Northall Allotments

Additional Taps - The purchase order has been raised. The Clerk awaits confirmation of a start date.

The Clerk has informed the warden and tenants of the Councils decision to install the taps.

The warden has responded with *"that is brilliant news. Thank you for driving this. The allotment holders will be thrilled."*

Rent Collection

Tenants have all been notified and rents are being paid.

Cemetery

Nothing to report.

Churchyard

The Council has received a £200 donation towards the cost of the meadow bank being cut.

Bridle Path

Nothing to report.

War Memorial

Nothing to report.

Bus Shelters

Nothing to report.

Litter & Recycling Bins, Dog Bins, Car Parks

Buckinghamshire Council failed to empty the recycling bin on 23rd September, BC stated that they could not access it as it was locked. The Clerk pointed out that BC operatives have a key for the lock and have had no issues emptying it on other occasions. The Clerk provided proof that a key had been received by BC on 11th May.

The bin was then scheduled to be emptied on the 7th October and yet again it was not emptied. As a result, recyclable waste has had to be put in the waste bin. BC confirmed they would empty it on 14th October but emptied it on the 12th October into the normal refuse bin.

This has now been passed to the manager of the Commercial Waste Team to investigate.

Streetlights

Bellway Homes have still not supplied the required information for the new High Street lights – the Clerk has been advised that they are working on this.

Faulty Streetlight in Deans Meadow, Dagnall

It was discovered that three of the four deactivated lights on High Street, Edlesborough have gone missing. The Clerk has since established that Bellway Homes removed and disposed of the lights without EPC's permission. Bellway Homes have agreed to replace the lights with three new lights and photocells (free of charge). The lead time for this is approximately three weeks. The regime will be the same as the new light being installed in Dagnall.

Failed Dagnall Light

As a result of the three deactivated lights being disposed of the Clerk raised a purchase order for a new light to be installed ASAP. This new light will come with a 10-year warranty. The dimming regime is slightly different:

- 100% Output until 23:00,
- 70% Output from 23:00 - 03:00,
- 50% Output from 03:00 - 05:00,
- 70% Output from 05:00 – 06:00
- 100% Output from 06:00 until switch off

The UMSUG code remains unchanged.

Streetlights Energy Costs

The Clerk has contacted other PC's who are paying considerably less for their streetlight energy. The Clerk will contact their suppliers for quotes. To date the Clerk has not been able to speak to our current energy supplier.

Taskers Row Bungalow Streetlight

The Clerk has written to Fairhive with a request that they cut back the trees surrounding the streetlight following a report from residents about the darkness at this location. To date no response has been received.

Website, Facebook and GDPR

Facebook

Nothing to report.

Website

The Website Accessibility was tested on 16th October 2022.

GDPR

- No reported breaches

Finance

September 2022 Accounts

Prior to the meeting the Clerk had circulated the September bank statement, payments and income to the full council. The accounts balance but there are a couple of reallocations of funds etc to be actioned on the new accounting software prior to the September accounts being circulated.

Action: Cllr Nevard and the Clerk to finalise the September accounts and circulate to the full council prior to the October accounts being circulated.

October Payments

Council agreed the October 2022 payment run.

Correspondence

Items circulated to the Full Council prior to the meeting:

Items for the October EPC Meeting

Items for future:

- Parish Paths Maps
- Rialtas Training

The meeting closed at 10pm